

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	:	
	:	Group Art Unit: 3732
Paul A. Vaughan	:	
	:	Examiner: Ralph A. Lewis
Appln. No.: 10/823,418	:	
	:	Confirmation No.: 4783
Filed: April 12, 2004	:	
	:	Customer No.: 21967
For: VERTEBRAL STABILIZATION	:	
ASSEMBLY AND METHOD	:	

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT/RESPONSE

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 27, 2006, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of the above-identified patent application in view of the following amendments/remarks, which are believed to place the above-identified patent application in condition for allowance or in better form for consideration on appeal.